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50X1-HUM

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 3014544 **HY****TELETYPED INFORMATION REPORT**

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31 OCT 56

PRECEDENCE
☐ **ROUTINE**

PRIORITY 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY
HUNGARY

SUBJECT
REBEL SENTIMENTS AND GENERAL OBSERVATIONS IN BORDER AREA

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1. SOVIET FORCES IN THE KOERMEND AREA COMPRISED ONE REGIMENT WITH TANKS. THE OLD GARRISON HAD NOT BEEN REINFORCED. THE TANKS WERE NOW DUG IN, BUT SOVIET INFANTRY MAINTAINED A ROAD BLOCK ON THE KOERMEND-SZOMBATHELY ROAD AND SEARCHED RELIEF TRUCKS FOR WEAPONS. TRAVELERS HAD REPORTED ABOUT FOUR SUCH BLOCKS ON THE ROAD FROM HEILIGENKREUZ TO BUDAPEST.

2. IT WAS BELIEVED THAT ALL FREE CITIES IN WEST HUNGARY ACKNOWLEDGED THE LEADERSHIP OF GYOER AND WOULD RESPOND TO THE CALL GYOER HAD ISSUED EARLIER TO SEND DELEGATIONS FROM RESISTANCE COUNCILS IN THE ENTIRE TRANS-DANUBIAN AREA. MANY COMMUNISTS WERE MEMBERS OF THE RESISTANCE COUNCILS, BUT THEY WERE "NATIONALISTS" WHO WERE NOT PROMINENT BEFORE THE REVOLT. ONLY ONE CITY IN THE WEST WANTED TO NEGOTIATE WITH IMRE NAGY, WHOSE TAKING OFFICE AT THE TIME OF THE SOVIET INTERVENTION HAD DESTROYED HIS CREDIT WITH THE POPULATION. THIS CITY WAS SZALAEGRSZEC.

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4. RESISTANCE COUNCILS AGREED IN GENERAL ON A MORATORIUM ON HUNGARIAN POLITICS UNTIL THE SOVIETS LEFT THE COUNTRY. THE REACTION OF THE SUBSOURCES TO FERENC NAGY'S PRESENCE IN VIENNA WAS "SO WHAT." THE HUNGARIAN ARMY WOULD FIGHT IF THE SOVIETS MADE A MOVE, BUT IN GENERAL HAD ONLY MACHINE GUNS. GYGER HAD TOLD THEM NOT TO ASK FOR WEAPONS AS THIS MIGHT GIVE THE SOVIETS AN EXCUSE TO BREAK THE CEASE-FIRE. HUNGARIAN ARMY DISCIPLINE IN THIS AREA APPEARED GOOD.

5. THE POPULATION OF THE TATABANYA MINING AREA AND OIL FIELDS WAS ON GENERAL STRIKE IN SUPPORT OF THE RESISTANCE FORCES AS OF THE MORNING OF 29 OCTOBER.

6. YUGOSLAV BORDER POLICING WAS FAIR BUT STRICT, WITH NO FRATERNIZATION WITH THE HUNGARIANS.

THE HUNGARIAN ARMY WAS DISMANTLING THE BARBED WIRE AT SZENTGOTTHARD. WATCH TOWERS WERE NOT MANNED. NO VISAS WERE REQUIRED TO ENTER HUNGARY AT RABAFUEZES.

7. THE PETOEFI RADIO, ALLEGEDLY WITH STUDIOS IN BUDAPEST AND TRANSMITTER NEAR LAKE BALATON, WENT OVER TO THE REBELS TODAY. A FEELING OF CONFIDENCE WAS APPARENT IN THE ENTIRE BORDER AREA.

END OF MESSAGE

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